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Cholera.

TURKEY.—Between March 4 and March 17 there occurred 423 deaths from cholera among the pilgrims on the way from Medina to Mecca. During the week ended March 24 there were officially recorded 523 deaths from cholera in Mecca. In Djiddah, where returning pilgrims are already arriving, 17 deaths from cholera occurred between March 18 and March 24.

DUTCH INDIA.—In the district of Soerabaya, between February 9 and February 22, there were recorded 18 cases of cholera, with 6 deaths.

Respectfully,

FRANK H. MASON,
United States Consul-General.

The SURGEON GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Increase of cancer in Germany and other countries.

[Extract from a lecture delivered by the government counsellor, Dr. Wutzdorff, of the imperial health office at Berlin.]

BERLIN, GERMANY, *April 11, 1902.*

As will be seen by reference to the tables contained in a previous report of this series, there were registered in the German Empire in the year 1892, among each 100,000 inhabitants, 59.6 deaths from cancer, which increased in 1898 to 70.6. During the seven years, therefore, from 1892 to 1898, the deaths from this disease had increased by 18.5 per cent.

The circumstance that such a considerable increase has taken place within so short a period speaks more forcibly than any other argument could do against the views entertained in various quarters that there has been no actual spread of cancer in Germany, but that owing to the increase of wealth among the middle classes and as a result of the legislation for the protection of the working classes, medical attendance is much better than formerly, and that consequently the diagnosis of disease is more accurate. During the period mentioned the conditions in question have not changed so considerably that the great increase in the number of deaths from cancer could be thus explained.

According to the geographical position (*see chart attached*) the spread of cancer is most noticeable, in the north, in Luebeck, Hamburg, and Schleswig-Holstein; in the south in Baden, Bavaria (especially right of the Rhine), Württemberg, Hessen, and Alsace-Lorraine, and in the middle of Germany, in Saxony, Brunswick, and Berlin.

The significant fact that in some of the States in the south of Germany and in the kingdom of Saxony, the number of deaths from cancer was increasing to an alarming extent, had been remarked for some time by the imperial health office and led to the official investigations which have been made as to the cause thereof. A satisfactory explanation of the increase in the number of deaths from cancer has, however, not yet been found. But it is confidently hoped that the movement initiated by the committee for the investigation of cancer (*comité für Krebsforschung*) will tend to throw light upon this dark question.

In conclusion, I must not omit reference to the increase in the number of deaths from cancer in other countries. In England, during the decade from 1861–1870, there died among each 1,000,000 inhabitants 384 persons; in the following decade, 468; from 1881–1890, on an average 589, and in the year 1899, 829. The increase amounted to 56.3 per cent (1881 to 1899) among males, and 32 per cent among females. In the Nether-

lands, too, cancer has considerably increased. In the year 1874 there died among each 100,000 inhabitants 49 from this disease; in the year 1897, 91—that is to say, more than 80 per cent more. In Switzerland the increase of cancerous disease has been terrible and continues to advance; among each 100,000 of the population there died from cancer in the year 1889, 114.4, and in the year 1898 as many as 132.4.

In the United States similar conditions exist. In the State of New York, for example, the cases of cancer increased from 2,473 in the year 1888 to 4,117 in the year 1897. In Massachusetts there died of cancer in the year 1856, per 100,000 inhabitants, males, 12.9; females, 24.5; in the year 1895, however, 44 and 94.4.

FRANK H. MASON,
United States Consul-General.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Report of quarantine on outgoing vessels.

HONOLULU, H. I., April 6, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to report the outgoing quarantine transactions at this station for the week ended April 5, 1902, as follows: Number of steamers inspected and passed, 2; number of sailing vessels inspected and passed, 4; number of cabin passengers inspected and passed, 12; number of steerage passengers inspected and passed, none; number of crew inspected and passed, 93; number of pieces of baggage disinfected, 43; number of sailing vessels disinfected, 2.

Respectfully,

L. E. COFER,
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Chief Quarantine Officer, Hawaii.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Monthly report of quarantine transactions in the Hawaiian Islands.

HONOLULU, H. I., April 8, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following report of quarantine transactions in the Hawaiian Islands for the month of March, 1902:

PORT OF HONOLULU.

Number of vessels inspected—	
From foreign ports.....	15
From domestic ports.....	33
Number of crew inspected.....	3,136
Number of passengers inspected—	
Cabin.....	1,147
Steerage and stowaways.....	4,885
Number of sick in detention from last month.....	0
Number in detention from last month.....	0
Number of sick in detention for this month.....	0
Number in detention for this month.....	1,674
Number of pieces of baggage disinfected.....	1,600
Number of packages of freight disinfected.....	1
Number of vaccinations.....	135

PORT OF HILO.

Number of vessels inspected.....	6
Number of crew inspected.....	81
Number of passengers inspected.....	91
Vessels remanded.....	0